GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion. General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.)

Contents for Week of November 4, 1940. Vol. XIX. No. 17.

1. Why Are the Balkans the "Powder Keg of Europe"?
2. Election Day Finds 80 Million Potential Voters in U. S.
3. New U. S. Defense Bases: St. Lucia and Antigua
4. Liverpool, the "Tradesmen's Entrance" to England
5. Misiones Territory Is Argentina's Inland Florida

Photograph by Melville Chater

HER "GEOGRAPHY HOMEWORK" IS TO STUDY HER HOMELAND FOR STICKS

Albanians call themselves the "Shkupetar," which has been translated as "Rock-dwellers." Children in Albania's rocky mountain lands must early learn their way around their native districts for such essential errands as gathering sticks of firewood. This girl of the mountainous north, near Shala, carries her bundle of fagots home in a sack on her back. Her stiff homemade skirt is so substantially woven of wool that it is waterproof. The tiny vest above her huge leather belt and her slippers with pointed turned-up toes show the Moslem influence of Turkey's former dominion over her homeland, the smallest of the turbulent Balkan countries (Bulletin No. 1).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic News Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers in the United States and its possessions for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (stamps or money order); in Canada, 50 cents. Entered as second-class matter, Jan. 27, 1922, Post Office, Washington, D. C., under act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of Oct. 3, 1917, authorized Feb. 9, 1922. Copyright, 1940, by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Quedan reservados todos los derechos.

UMI

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Why Are the Balkans the "Powder Keg of Europe"?

WHAT are the Balkans? And what are the geographic factors that have contributed to their nickname, "Europe's Powder Keg"? Such questions are stimulated by the spread of war's tenseness throughout the Balkan Peninsula.

Cast by geography in a "doormat" rôle, the Balkan countries, at the crossing of strategic sea- and land-routes of southeastern Europe, have been walked over by peoples on the move since the beginning of recorded time.

Diversity of terrain and climate have furthered a natural disunity among the Balkans. Transportation problems have increased the difficulty of overcoming these natural differences. Moreover, history has recorded instances of the Balkan nations, because of their land-bridge position between Europe and Asia, being influenced by powerful non-Balkan nations, which have seen the value of keeping Balkan buffer states divided.

Has 51 Million People in Racial Mixture

Usually the name, "Balkans," is meant in a political sense, and then it includes Romania, with Yugoslavia, Albania (illustration, cover), Greece, Bulgaria, and that small fraction of Turkey which lies in Europe.

The geographic region of the Balkan Peninsula, on the other hand, occupies roughly the whole southeastern quarter of Europe between the Black and Aegean Seas on the east, and the Adriatic and Ionian Seas on the west. There is not complete agreement as to the northern boundary, but in general it may be taken as the Danube River and its great western tributary, the Sava, with a line continued to the head of the Adriatic Sea. This limit would exclude Romania.

Larger than France and the United Kingdom together, the Balkan countries support a population of more than 51,000,000. History's duet with geography has mixed the diverse racial elements of the Balkans, scattered the blend throughout the Peninsula, segregated various stocks in groups isolated by natural barriers, and drawn national boundaries according to the numerically superior strains in each section. Thus Yugoslavia is largely peopled by Serbs, Romania counts a majority of its inhabitants as Vlachs and Romans (Rumans), Bulgars predominate in Bulgaria, Turks in Turkey-in-Europe, Greeks in Greece (illustration, inside cover), and Albanians in Albania. But smaller groups of these peoples and their cross-strains are widely distributed all over the Balkans.

Mountain Barriers Block Unity

Climate has played a major part in preventing racial and national unity in the Balkans. From the wheat and corn lands of Romania, northern Yugoslavia, and Bulgaria, through the beech and oak forests of the central uplands, to the olive-, vine-, fig-, and goat-culture of southern Yugoslavia, Albania, and Greece, the climate shifts from the cold winters and warm summers of the north to the typically Mediterranean mild winters and dry, hot summers of the south.

Between 70 and 80 per cent of the Balkan peoples live on the produce of the soil. Large areas of all the Balkan countries are unsuited for cultivation; yet agricultural products form three-fourths of their total exports. Apart from cereals, important exports include oil and lumber from Romania; attar of roses, tobacco, and silk from Bulgaria (illustration, next page); pigs, copper, and timber from Yugo-

UMI

Photograph by Maynard Owen Williams

MODERN SOLDIERS DRESSED IN MEDIEVAL UNIFORMS SALUTE A SCULPTURED COMRADE IN ANCIENT ARMOR

Before this memorial to Greece's Unknown Soldier in Constitution Square at Athens stands a silver lamp burning that very modern fuel, kilowatts, to embody the ancient idea of a perpetual flame. The modern bas-relief shows a classic warrior armed as in the days that first made Greece great. The ballet-skirted uniform of today includes long white woolen hose held up by suspenders, a tasseled fez, and heel-less pumps with pompons on their tapering toes. The *fustanella*, or man's pleated skirt, is common to peasants in Greece and that country's Balkan neighbor, Albania (Bulletin No. 1).

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)
General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Election Day Finds 80 Million Potential Voters in U. S.

WHEN the election-day dawn of November 5 brings the signal to put down the campaign button and pick up the ballot, there will be approximately 84,178,000 adults in the United States who are old enough to vote.

This figure, based on preliminary estimates of the 1940 census, represents not only the largest number of "votables" the United States has ever had. But this 1940 old-enough-to-vote group also constitutes a larger proportion of the population total than ever before—64 per cent. (The increase in proportion is explained as a result of the declining birth rate and the prolonging of the average life span through improved health measures.) More than three million of them, however, are aliens and therefore ineligible to brandish the ballot.

Where Do America's Votes Live?

Where these 84 million voters will be on election day is a moot question, but it is safe to predict that they will not all appear at the polls. In 1936, fewer than 46 million people voted, or about 58 per cent of those of voting age. The occasion on which a presidential election called one of the nation's record proportions of the voting-age population to the polls was the 1896 contest in which McKinley was elected. Eight years later, when Theodore Roosevelt was chosen for president, the total number of voters did not equal the 1896 record, although the population increase had presented the country with many more eligible voters during the interval. The 1904 elections, however, represent the only instance of the number of voters dropping below an earlier figure for the entire United States.

On any map based on square miles the giant among the States is Texas. But the Lone Star State dwindles in importance when the States are "re-mapped" on the basis of 1936 voting population. California also loses its area-earned second place. Huge Texas drops back to the rank of sixteenth, between Kansas in fifteenth place and North Carolina. California ranks not second but fifth.

Big States Grow Small on "Votable Map"

The voting size of States creates an unfamiliar "map" of the United States which hovers above the country for election day only, then vanishes. On that day New York is the largest, by virtue of its more than five and a half million voters. The second largest is also on the east coast—Pennsylvania, with more than four million citizens at the polls. The next greatest States in number of voters are in the Great Lakes region—Illinois in third place and Ohio in fourth. Not one of these stands among the country's leaders on the basis of size. California, fifth largest on election day, is the only State which appears on lists of the five largest and the five "votingest" also. Each one of these big-voting States can poll as many votes as the entire United States contributed toward electing Lincoln in 1860.

"As goes Maine, so goes the nation" is a proverb esteemed by prognosticators. But there are thirty other States, including Rhode Island, whose greater volume of votes would weigh more heavily in deciding the nation's political direction.

Nevada, which ordinarily takes sixth place among the States in point of size, shrinks to the bottom of the list when voters are reckoned. Because of the big area's small population, it records the smallest number of votes—less than one-thousandth of the nation's total—fewer than 44,000. The broad reaches of Arizona and Wyoming, which earn these States the august rank of fifth and eighth respectively for size, dwindle in voting importance to forty-fifth and forty-seventh.

UMI

slavia; wool, hides, and furs from Albania; and mineral ores, tobacco, and currants from Greece.

Mountainous Balkans Take Name from a Mountain Range

The numerous fingerlike peninsulas jutting from Greece into the Aegean and Mediterranean Seas are an index of the northwest-southeast trend of most of the mountain ranges of the Balkans. Rivers—and consequently main roads and railways—follow this "grain" of the land, which, in early days, laid the region open to the ebb and flow of the tides of conquest and migration. The Danube River has always been the great corridor between central and southeastern Europe. Travel across the Peninsula is blocked by the successive, rugged ranges of the Dinaric Alps in Yugoslavia, the Pindus Mountains of western Greece, and the Rhodope Mountains of Bulgaria. North of the Rhodopes, the Balkan Mountains—a minor range from which the Peninsula's name is derived—curve from the Black Sea to the Iron Gate of the Danube.

Note: The following articles in the *National Geographic Magazine* contain material on the Balkans: "Today's Evidence of Grecian Glory," March, 1940; "Kaleidoscopic Land of Europe's Youngest King" (Yugoslavia), June, 1939; "American Girl Cycles Across Romania," November, 1938; "Bulgaria, Farm Land Without a Farmhouse," August, 1932; and "Europe's Newest Kingdom" (Albania), February, 1931. See also The Society's Map of the Classical Lands of the Mediterranean and the Map of Europe and the Near East. These two maps are available for 50c each on paper or 75c on linen.

Bulletin No. 1, November 4, 1940.

Photograph by Georg Gr. Paskoff

THIS IMMIGRANT FROM ASIA IS AT HOME IN BULGARIA

The silkworm, of Asiatic origin, thrives on Bulgaria's mulberry leaves, making cocoons of yellowish silk in the north and whitish in the south. After the worm is killed by steaming, the cocoon is dried in light, airy warehouses. Part of Bulgaria's silk supplies local industries, but much is exported in the cocoon.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

New U. S. Defense Bases: St. Lucia and Antigua

(This is the fifth of a series on the defense bases.)

St. Lucia, The Volcanoes' Gift to Caribbean Strategy

THE defense bases obtained by the United States from Great Britain on the islands of St. Lucia and Antigua are well spaced sentinels overlooking the trade routes that enter the Caribbean from the south and east. These island watchdogs complete an eastward-facing front line curving north and west from the island of Trinidad through St. Lucia, Antigua, and the Virgin Islands to Puerto Rico.

The pear-shaped green island of St. Lucia, at the northern end of the Windward Islands group, stands almost due west of Dakar, 2,600 miles away in westernmost Africa. The Panama Canal is some 1,150 miles to the west.

At the "stem" of St. Lucia's pear outline is the little port of Castries, the capital, with 8,000 inhabitants, snug inside one of the most sheltered harbors in the Caribbean. A mile long, the landlocked harbor grew in importance when steam made coal necessary to shipping; it was the only British-owned harbor in the West Indies where a vessel of deep draught could be loaded with coal directly from land. Sturdy negro women stevedores carried the coal aboard in 100-pound baskets on their heads.

St. Lucia did not become permanently British until 1814. Columbus found it in 1502, named it and claimed it for Spain. British settlers, venturing there 15 years before the *Mayflower* sailed, retreated before the menace of Indians. A second colony in 1638 was smoked out by Indian "chemical warfare experts" burning red pepper. Two Frenchmen bought the island in 1650, and for more than a century and a half it switched from French to British authority and back again with dizzying frequency. Place names and the speech of the 65,000 inhabitants, mostly negroes, reflect French influence. The island's name, however, is generally given the English pronunciation, "Loo′shia."

Lying south and in sight of the volcanic French island, Martinique, St. Lucia is another bit of land that lava built. Its sulphur-crusted crater of Soufrière is always mildly active but generally well behaved; visitors can walk delicately over the crust. The steep green cones of the two Pitons (pointed mountains), rising more than 2,400 feet from the sea like the ears of some submerged giant donkey, are explained as spines of lava left from extinct volcanoes now weathered away.

On St. Lucia's limited area of 238 square miles, mostly mountainous, natives cultivate sugar cane on lush plantations, for sugar is their leading export. Bunker coal—previously shipped in—is next in importance among outgoing cargoes. St. Lucia's products include bananas, cocoa, lime juice, bay oil and bay rum, and copra.

Note: The following issues of the *National Geographic Magazine* contain references to St. Lucia: "Southward Ho! in The *Alice*," March, 1938; "Hunting Useful Plants in the Caribbean," December, 1934; and "Skypaths Through Latin America," January, 1931. The Society's Map of the Caribbean, with historical annotations, shows St. Lucia and Antigua.

Antigua, Smallest Base, Was Footstool of an Empire

THE reef-ringed oval of Antigua, in the center of the Leeward Islands crescent of the eastern Caribbean, has a ghost town, and a ghost population of proud traditions. Hidden in the sheltered bay of English Harbor stands a dismantled dockyard which once based ships patrolling the West Indies for England's empire. The Sail Loft is vacant, the storerooms for caulking-pitch are empty, and no one pushes through the brush around the old barracks on the once beaten path to the

UMI

The District of Columbia on the election day "map" shrinks to the vanishing point, as none of its citizens has a vote.

Like Texas, there are seven other Southern States whose voting size is considerably below acreage size. Property-owning requirements, literacy tests, and poll taxes play a part in cutting the voting population in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, as well as Texas. Their average percentage of adults voting is about 22, in contrast to the estimated 72 per cent for the rest of the States.

Some small States, on the other hand, loom large on the basis of ballots. New Jersey, whose rank is forty-fifth in area, takes eighth place on the votable list, while Missouri advances from eighteenth to seventh. Rhode Island, a baby in acreage, surpasses eighteen others in voting strength, including big Montana and New Mexico.

Before these States were formed, election day came to American when democratic Indian tribes cast their primitive votes. In New England the vote immigrated on the *Mayflower*, and the Plymouth colonists elected their officials annually. But Georgia's officials were appointed until shortly before the Revolution. In South Carolina the electors were appointed until 1860. Before 1848, the date of voting varied from State to State, from the end of October till nearly mid-November.

Note: Showing highways, national parks and monuments, adjoining portions of Canada and Mexico, and 8,700 place names, a new ten-color wall map of the United States will be published as a 41 x 26-inch supplement to the *National Geographic Magazine* for December, 1940.

Bulletin No. 2, November 4, 1940.

Photograph by Maynard Owen Williams

THE BALLOT IS A POTENT FRAGMENT OF THE GLORY THAT WAS GREECE

Part of the heritage which Greek civilization contributed to mankind was the secret voting process, although the balloting of the ancients differed considerably from the procedure of the American election day. On less momentous matters, much of the Athenians' voting was vocal. But the famous ostraca, the vote to designate citizens and officials considered a menace to the young democracy of Athens, was a secret ballot scratched on a bit of broken pottery, or potsherd, brought from home. The man receiving a majority of the ostraca votes was not elected, but exiled, for ten years. These early "blackballs," potsherds found at the Agora of Athens, were used 2,400 years ago in the days of Themistocles and Aristides. Students of Greek who decipher the still legible name of Themistocles scratched on the ostraca (upper right) will find that it is misspelled.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)
General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Liverpool, the "Tradesmen's Entrance" to England

WHILE London has been bearing the brunt of German air attacks, Liverpool, second-ranking port and third largest city in England, diagonally across the island on the Irish Sea coast, has also been bombed repeatedly (map, next page).

The importance of this gateway for trade on England's west coast, surpassed only by London, is indicated by its exports, which normally represent between a quarter and a third of the total for the whole United Kingdom. The city is also in normal times Europe's chief cotton market and a center for the grain trade.

Port Only Three Miles from Irish Sea

Liverpool, with a population of 855,500, has grown up on low hills on the north bank of the tidal estuary of the Mersey River, only three miles from the open Irish Sea. It is the "tradesmen's entrance" to England, receiving vast quantities of raw materials from overseas, and exporting shipload after shipload of textiles, machinery, chinaware, metals, and other manufactured products.

The city's own manufactures of flour, refined sugar, matches, chemicals, glass, cables, soap, biscuits, artificial silk, and finished tobacco are important, but the output of the great nearby industrial centers of Lancashire and the Midlands provides the bulk of its exports. Most of the cotton, rubber, timber, and other raw materials brought to its docks are addressed to inland factories.

Cotton and grain are the staple imports, but Liverpool also has an enormous incoming trade in livestock, chilled and frozen meat, tobacco, sugar, and fruits.

Before the newcomer sailing up the Mersey, Liverpool unfolds a varied panorama of docks, ships, factories, and vast warehouses. Three waterfront "skyscrapers"—the Liver Building with its 17 stories, the Dock Board offices, and the Cunard Building—would not be notable in New York, but in low-built Liverpool they are striking landmarks.

High Tides Make Special Landing Floats Necessary

Because of the Mersey's great range of tides (from 15 to 27 feet), passengers from transatlantic liners and local ferry steamers disembark on unusual floating landing stages. Prince's and George's Landing Stages, together a half mile long and 80 feet wide, rest on 200 iron pontoons, and are linked with the river bank by nine hinged bridges and an inclined floating bridge 550 feet long.

The 89 docks which flank the Liverpool side of the Mersey aggregate 647 acres. There are also 21 graving (repair) docks. Two tunnels, for vehicles and railways, pass under the Mersey to connect Liverpool with the important port of Birkenhead opposite.

Liverpool Cathedral, started in 1904, will, when completed, be England's largest Episcopal cathedral and the world's fourth largest church. But it will be surpassed in bulk by the city's Catholic Cathedral, begun in 1933, which will be second in size only to St. Peter's in Rome.

Liverpool has several fine museums, among them the Walker Art Gallery, with a splendid collection of old masters. St. George's Hall, where concerts and meetings are held, is often called the finest modern example of the Greco-Roman style of architecture in England. Liverpool University has 2,500 students.

The city has almost 1,500 acres of parks; the ancient sport of bowling on the green still flourishes in many of them. Since the 19th century Liverpool has spent huge sums on slum clearance, housing, sanitation, and streets.

UMI

Pay Office. A British king-to-be, William IV, commanded this dockyard while still a naval officer, and Lord Nelson fought mosquitoes there in the 1780's. But as ships of deeper draught were built, English Harbor proved too shallow, and the dockyard was abandoned in 1889.

In other ways too Antigua is handicapped by lack of water. Its 108 square miles of low wooded hills have no real rivers and little rain. The foundation of the island is volcanic. English colonists coming from near-by St. Kitts in 1632 had to endure considerable thirst. At times water was peddled by the pailful.

When Columbus discovered Antigua in 1493, he named it for a small chapel in the cathedral at Seville. Today the island's own cathedral is one of its landmarks, built in 1848 on the site of a church destroyed by earthquake. It consists of a stone church with rain catchments on the roof and a complete wooden church on the inside, for earthquake protection.

The town of St. Johns, with a fifth of the island's 35,000 inhabitants, is capital of the Leeward Islands (illustration, below). A Reynolds portrait of King George III still in the Court House hints how long the little settlement has been an Empire administrative center. Local speech has Anglicized the island's name to "Anteega."

St. Johns' shallow, island-dotted, exposed harbor is visited by local steamers but no great liners. Flying boats of the Pan American Airways, however, make the island a regular stop between Miami and South America. The smallest island on which the United States will maintain a base leased from Great Britain, it has special value for its flanking position east of Puerto Rico and the Panama Canal.

Note: Because of its proximity to St. Lucia, Antigua is also described in the issues of the *Geographic* listed on the preceding page. Antigua appears on The Society's Map of the Atlantic as one of the stops on the Pan American Airways route from Miami to Buenos Aires.

Bulletin No. 3, November 4, 1940.

Photograph by Edwin L. Wisherd

ANTIGUA OFFERS TROPICAL TRAVEL AND COMMERCE UNDER ENGLAND'S FLAG

Both the grocery store and the jitney bus in St. Johns, capital of Antigua, are wide open, for airiness. The fresh-air-style bus, with canvas curtains for protection against the weather, has customers even for standing room. Bus passengers can buy refreshments from the trays of candy and pastry balanced on the vendors' heads.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Misiones Territory Is Argentina's Inland Florida

ARGENTINA'S remote northern tip, Misiones Territory, is usually an undisturbed region where the quiet of farm and forest is broken only by the distant thunder of the giant Iguassú Falls or the whistle of the steamboat round the bend of the Paraná River. But recent news dispatches tell of stormy clashes between loyal Argentinians and Nazi sympathizers among the colonists of German extraction who make up a large part of the Territory's inhabitants.

Misiones is one of Argentina's frontier regions, where the sleeping giants of forest and waterfall have only recently been waked to serve man's need for timber and hydro-electric power. Its development has attracted a population, now numbering 100,000, of 20th century pioneers—Poles, Germans from Brazil, and Argentinians of Italian and Spanish origin.

The "Tea Canister" of Argentina

A new highway in 1938 opened the way through the Territory's virgin forest to that super-Niagara, the multiple falls of the Iguassú River, considered the most stupendous water landscape in Argentina if not in South America (illustration, next page). The Iguassú's two main falls and hundred cataracts make an island-studded crescent more than two miles across (Niagara is one mile).

Three rivers mark much of the Territory's boundary lines—the Iguassú, emptying 12 miles below its falls into the even mightier Paraná, the Paraná itself, and the Uruguay. Rich in timber and yerba maté—which means tea to fourteen million South Americans—Misiones uses its boundary rivers for pouring its products into southern markets.

The Territory, almost the size of Maryland but not yet developed to Statehood, is a fat Argentine finger thrust between Paraguay and Brazil. A president of the United States settled its frontiers, when Cleveland in 1896 arbitrated a dispute between Argentina and Brazil. The Territory keeps Temperate Zone Argentina in touch with the tropics. In the southern latitude corresponding to that of Florida in the northern hemisphere, it is likewise a peninsula—though inland—of semi-torrid lushness attached to a cooler country.

Named "Misiones" for Missions of Jesuit Maté Planters

The greatest forest wealth of Argentina, whose broad pampas are treeless, is in Misiones. Groves of tung, orange, and tangerine trees give a Floridian touch to the landscape. Yerba maté is gathered from a tree resembling the orange, but actually a South American holly, whose glossy green leaf is cured and crumbled to tealike particles over burning logs. About 80 per cent of the Territory wears an unbroken cover of woodland, including a fragrant rose-colored cedar for fine-grained furniture wood. Of the sturdy Paraná pine, the Territory has over three million acres. Trees are floated in rafts down the Paraná, actually improving by loss of sap in the water, and broken up for delivery to the sawmills of Posadas, capital of the Territory.

In clearings along river banks, colonists raise cotton and tobacco, rice, sugar cane, pineapples, and peanuts. Their crops of manioc, when drained of poisonous juice, become the cassava familiar as the chief ingredient of tapioca.

Main crop, however, is the yerba maté. Jesuit missionaries some three centuries ago, collecting Indians on plantations for defense against slave-traders of

UMI

The modern growth of Liverpool dates from days when English commerce turned westward to face the New World. Liverpool ships sailed over the notorious triangle route: England to Africa for slaves, Africa to the West Indies to dispose of the "human gold," and then off to England again with cargoes of American tobacco, cotton, molasses, sugar, and rum.

Note: There is additional material on Liverpool in the following articles of the *National Geographic Magazine:* "Britain Just Before the Storm," August, 1940; and "Vagabonding in England," March, 1934.

See also The Society's Modern Pilgrim's Map of the British Isles, which may be ordered for 50c on paper or $1 on linen.

Bulletin No. 4, November 4, 1940.

Drawn by A. E. Holdstock

LIVERPOOL GETS ITS NAME FROM WALES, ITS TRADE FROM ENGLAND

When London in the southeast was already an important port, Liverpool was a mere village beside a tidal creek, or "sea pool," which, according to one explanation, inspired the Welsh name for the place. Its first importance came as a military port for embarking troops for Ireland. Now it serves as the back door for all central England, including the giant cities of Birmingham and Manchester, as London is the front door. Its commerce overflows Liverpool to Birkenhead on the opposite side of the tidal estuary of the Mersey, linked by tunnels and ferry service. The 29 miles of docks on the Liverpool side are supplemented by 9 miles on the Birkenhead side.

Brazil, developed a secret procedure for domesticating the wild yerba maté, and built a prosperous economy on their steady supply of the prized leaf.

Their monopoly of domestic maté lasted for a century and a half. When the Jesuits were expelled in 1768, their secret was lost. Plantations were reclaimed by the wild growth of the forest. Indians again plunged haphazardly into the forest to collect yerba maté. Solid and ornate mission buildings crumbled, lost roofs, columns, towers, and finally walls. The ruins became objects of wonder to travelers, who were amazed at the rich structures in an uncivilized wilderness. The territory was known as the "Land of the Missions," abbreviated to Misiones.

At the beginning of the 20th century the simple secret of domestic plantations of yerba maté was rediscovered at last—the seed must be removed from its berry before planting. Now Misiones supplies 65,000 tons of the leaf a year for Argentina, where the annual consumption exceeds 20 pounds per person.

The capital, Posadas, has already outdistanced the rest of Misiones in development. Although a city of little more than 20,000 inhabitants, it is the sixth most important port of Argentina.

Note: The following articles in the *National Geographic Magazine* contain material on Argentina: "Buenos Aires: Queen of the River of Silver," November, 1939; and "Life on the Argentine Pampa," October, 1933. The Society's Map of South America shows Misiones Territory in Argentina in some detail (paper 50c; linen 75c).

Bulletin No. 5, November 4, 1940.

Photograph from Theodore W. Noyes

THE BROADEST OF THE WORLD'S GREAT WATERFALLS, IGUASSÚ HAS TWO MILES OF CATARACTS

The Iguassú Falls are so broad that they cannot be seen in their entirety from any one point on the ground; San Martín Island (right foreground) hides half of the cataracts. Union Fall (right background), at the boundary of Brazil and Argentina, has the deepest unbroken drop, 230 feet, half again as great as Niagara's. The narrow gorge boiling with rapids is known as Devil's Throat Chasm. Certain sections of the falls are notable spectacles in themselves, such as the Hidden Cataract, the Leap of the Three Musketeers, and Floriano Falls (left). Some of them are double, dropping to a preliminary ledge before the final leap.

UMI